

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ARE VERY CHEERFUL

Despite Total Darkness in London, Life There Has Lighter Shades.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Notwithstanding the well-known total darkness of the night and the number of wounded seen upon the streets London life is not without its lighter shades even in these crucial days of the great war. One reason for this is that the wounded soldiers are about the most cheerful lot London has ever known. Most of those encountered along the Strand, in Piccadilly and other promenades of the West End are from Canada, Australia or New Zealand. The wounded English "Tommy" is more often found in the suburbs in the neighborhood of his old home. It would seem decidedly out of place to sympathize with these oftentimes permanently crippled men in hospital beds, for that is apparently the last thing they desire. As a matter of fact they deeply resent it as a rule. In crowded tram or tube cars women often arise and offer seats to wounded soldiers only to have them politely but very firmly refused.

Nor will the men ordinarily talk of where they "got it." "Oh, somewhere out in No-man's land," they'll say. One chatterbox of a Tommy went so far as to add: "I was 'opping along from one dug-out to another when I ups and stumbles over something 'ard. I guess it must 'a been a bomb. Anyway it blew me bloomin' lot of off."

Cripples Happy.
A popular young Canadian officer, in mufti and on crutches, recently swung his way with no little difficulty into the lounge room of a hotel in the Strand. His left leg was shattered from the knee down and hung stiff and helpless in steel braces.

"Have something, 'Livy?" asked one of his fellows in khaki.
"Sorry, but I can't tonight old man," replied "Livy"; "you see I have a crippled friend to look after."

In came the friend, an even younger officer with his right leg gone at the knee.

"We toosed a coin," explained "Livy"; "to see which one of us would look after the other and I lost."

"Dead" Man Turns Up.

In this same hotel, which is a sort of headquarters for the officers from across the seas, a report was circulated one night of the death of a young flying corps officer. He had often been in the club and only a few days before had "swanked" quite a bit about the easy life he was living. All he had to do was to take new machines across the channel and turn them over to the aviators at the front. In this way he spent about every other day in London, much to the envy of the fellows "over there" who were longing for the sights of town. But now "Gil" was gone and a company of his friends drank a silent toast to his memory.

Three days later "Gil" created consternation at the club by appearing very much alive and as hale and as hearty as ever.

"Why, you old cheater," shouted one of his friends, "go back where you belong or pay us for that very expensive round we had the other night. What right have you got to be living anyway?"

"Gil" admitted the obligation entailed by his return from the grave, paid it handsomely, and is still flying "wingers" at the front.

Very Much Broke.

Another young Canadian of the flying corps told of a "joke" he played on the folk at home. He had not written for nearly a month when along came a cablegram:

"No letters for weeks. Is anything wrong with the boy?"

Promptly he had cabled back "collected."

"Very serious matter. Boy absolutely broke. Send much money."

"That," explained the "boy," "ought to stop them worrying for a while."

Humor in Wills.

Instances of the lightness of heart which the soldiers go into the war are many. In embarking for active service the Canadians are given pay books in which their allowances are entered from time to time. The book also serves for identification purposes and the last page is set aside for the making of a will. Some of those that have turned up lately have proved to be grimly humorous. One said:

"I give everything I have to the Home for Stray Cats, London, provided they don't take in any more black cats."

Another read:

"In case I should die—(cheers)—I will everything to my mother—(loud and prolonged cheers.)"

Both were held to be valid.

Have Band at Front.

At a reinforcement camp, "somewhere in France" the Australian contingents have a fine brass band they brought with them from home. The band has become famous in the vicinity for whenever an Australian group is called up, no matter how small it is, the band always is there to give the men a musical send-off. Usually this occurs at 4 o'clock a. m., a fact which adds materially to the renown of the band.

He Came Back.

Part of the line of march lies beside a general field hospital and invariably the nurses or "sisters" as the soldiers call them, turn out to wave a parting salute.

"Save me a nice bed, Sister," called out one of the Tommies a day or two ago. "I'll be back in a few minutes."

Oddly enough, he was.

Theaters Reluctant Spirit.

The London theaters reflect the spirit of the times. Serious plays are all but forgotten, "revue" and musical comedies holding the boards at all the better houses. Of course there are no chorus men in the production—a new evidence that cruel war has its alleviating circumstances.

Hens Fall Down on the Job.

Some of the London papers have recently complained that the British hen has taken a holiday mood on and is distinctly not doing "her bit." The price of eggs, accordingly, has risen to an equivalent of sixty-six cents a dozen. Colonials are again to be called upon to help out and it is admitted

how that much depends upon the Canadian chicken.

Not a Funeral.

There is a rule in London that except in emergency cases military ambulances must not exceed five miles an hour. This slow pace, designed for the comfort of the wounded, sometimes proves irksome to them. One badly shattered Tommy lifted his head from the stretcher a few days ago and hailed the chauffeur.

"I say, would you mind driving a bit faster; this ain't no bally funeral."

There is also the story of Tommy Dodd, the most cheerful and indomitable little fellow in his command. Tommy was badly laid out a day or two ago with four or five nasty shrapnel wounds. He was arranging some barbed wire standards along toward the front and in the enthusiasm of his work got a bit nearer "Whizz Bang" than he should. A shell burst low overhead and Tommy Dodd went to a cloud of dust.

"Looks almost like a Blighty for me, sir, don't it," he said to an officer who ran to his rescue. Then the stretcher men came along to bear Tommy away to the dressing station. Tommy gave a grim little smile as they straightened up.

"Home, James," he sighed.

Much Rivalry.

Soldier stories of amusing happenings at the front are many. There is considerable rivalry among the Canadians and the Aussies—the men from Australia and New Zealand. The English think they are both such good soldiers there is little to choose between them. This incident happened at a canteen sometime ago when the Australians first came to the western front. Several Canadians were within when they espied the wide-brimmed campaign hats that distinguish the Aussies from all the other soldiers. The Canadians gave their fellow Colonials a hearty welcome and an equally hearty invitation to "have something."

These fraternal details having been attended to a Canadian turned to one of the Aussies.

"When did you fellows come over?" he asked.

"Just got in this morning."

"Well, what are you going to do?"

"This was too good an opening for the Aussies."

"Oh," he said in a "swanky" tone.

Will Take Place from October 14 to 19 in the Affairs of Farming.

EL PASO, Tex., Sept. 23.—Three important events of an international character that will have a direct and lasting influence on the agriculture of the United States will be held here from October 14 to 19, inclusive. They are: The International Irrigation Congress, the International Farm Congress and the International Soil Products Exposition, which lasts until October 24.

In connection with these meetings there will be the dedication on October 14 by President Wilson of the great Elephant Butte dam, one of the greatest irrigation structures and projects in the world. Immediately after these ceremonies, which are to take place at the dam, President Wilson comes to El Paso where he probably will speak at the congress that night.

Tentative Program.

This will be the twenty-third annual meeting of the International Irrigation Congress and it will be the second time that it has met here. The tentative program begins with the dedication of the Elephant Butte dam. The congress has before it for discussion many important subjects regarding irrigation in both the United States and Mexico. It is probable that one of the meetings will be held across the international border at Juarez, Mexico.

All of the foreign countries have been invited to send delegates, but owing to disturbed conditions in Europe it is not believed likely that many delegates from there will participate. From other countries, especially the western hemisphere, usually large delegations take part in the meetings and it is believed that this year's congress will not prove an exception.

Two Big Questions.

In its discussions, the congress will give much attention to irrigation districts, practices, legislation and engineering. Two of the important questions, planned to be discussed, are rural credits and markets and marketing. The rural credits discussions are regarded of especial importance in view of the recent passage of the federal farm loan bank act and the present efforts of the farm loan board in directing the country and establishing the proposed farm loan banks.

"The work of the irrigation congress," says Arthur Hooker, secretary, "with respect to colonization and land settlement, irrigation methods and results, and irrigation finances, is to be continued and broadened at the El Paso meetings. The real aim of the congress is well expressed in its motto: 'Make Easy the Path of the Home Builder.'"

Prominent Men to Attend.

Besides President Wilson, many prominent men, leaders in the agricultural and irrigation extension movement, are to take part in the congress. Among them probably will be the following:

Franklin P. Lane, secretary of the interior; David F. Houston, secretary of agriculture; W. R. Motherwell, minister of agriculture of Canada; George P. Hunt, governor of Arizona; Hiram B. Johnson, governor of California; George A. Carlson, governor of Colorado; E. M. Ammons, ex-governor of Colorado; Moses Alexander, governor of Idaho; Arthur Capper, governor of Kansas; S. O. V. Stewart, governor of Montana; William M. McDonald, governor of New Mexico; R. S. Williams, governor of Oklahoma; Frank M. Byrne, governor of South Dakota; James E. Ferguson, governor of Utah; J. B. Kendrick, governor of Wyoming; Ernest Lister, governor of Washington; and Dr. T. N. Carver, of Harvard

University.

The international farm congress concerns itself chiefly with dry farming methods. In connection with the congress and under the management of its officers is to be held the International Soil Products Exposition where are to be agricultural exhibits from the United States government, many of the individual states and foreign governments. It is understood that even some of the warring nations of Europe will not be unrepresented this year.

GUINEA PIGS ARE CARRIERS OF CHOLERA

According to the Experiments Made by Dr. Schöbl in the City of Manila.

MANILA, Sept. 23.—What is considered by insular health officials as a most important discovery has been disclosed by Dr. Schöbl of the government bureau of science, who has been experimenting with guinea pigs. His experiments have shown that guinea pigs are intermediate cholera carriers in that they can be inoculated with the cholera germ and later will throw off the germ. Then without further inoculation, a feeding of bile brings back the cholera germ.

These experiments, say local health officials, explain remarkable conditions which have been found to prevail at Bilid prison, the big insular prison in Manila. During the slight epidemic of cholera which has been affecting several provinces of the islands, inspections at Bilid have disclosed cholera carriers among prisoners, who, on previous examination, were found to be negative. Cholera infection appeared afterwards when there had been no possibility of their exposure to the disease.

Cholera carriers are a big problem in the Philippines, and through Dr. Schöbl's discovery, local health officials hope to be able to solve the problem of killing the propensity of certain individuals to harbor the deadly germs.

TWO HUSBANDS KILLED BY SAME RATTLESNAKE

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Sept. 14.—W. C. Cole, Hattiesburg grocer, has just received a dead rattlesnake which he says was responsible for the death of two husbands of a woman in the logging camps of Mississippi.

"I do not want to mention the woman's name," said Mr. Cole, "as she begged me not to. Some two years ago her husband was killed by a snake while logging. He was bitten, the fangs of the snake penetrating a high to boot.

"After his death another lumberman married the woman. Being poor, she offered him her dead husband's high top boots. He accepted them. He died a few days later from snake poisoning. It was found that the fangs of the snake was imbedded in the boot and had penetrated the flesh of the second husband, also poisoning him."

Mr. Cole says this is the first case of the kind he ever heard and that several hunters captured and killed the snake.

WEST VIRGINIA TAKES PART IN CAPITAL NEWS

Vents of Washington, D. C. Are Reported by Telegram's Correspondent There.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—The organization of one of the largest and most enthusiastic political clubs ever known in this city, which is to be known as the Hughes Club of the District of Columbia, indicates that politics in Washington will reach the boiling point along with the campaign throughout the rest of the country. The Hughes Club was organized this week. Usually citizens in the District are more too anxious to form local organizations maintaining their interest and help in the presidential campaign by keeping in touch with things in their home state. But from the trend of the political speeches made at the opening meeting this time it is to be different. Members of the club state that during the present administration attacks have been made upon the government and people of the District, without careful investigation of the facts, by men both in and out of Congress whose qualifications for the most part are practically nil. The result of these attacks has been that local business and industry in Washington, it is alleged, has been greatly depressed and that real estate values have decreased on an average of about one-third; that nothing whatever has been done by Congress for the government clerks here in the way of increased compensation, although it has increased the salaries of certain high government officials. Claiming that the Democratic party is fundamentally narrow and sectional, concerned primarily with its own local and sectional interests and apparently incapable of governing the country from a broad, national standpoint, the club was organized to lend every resource in its possession to further the campaign of former Justice Hughes and the party he represents. Evidently the "South in the saddle" has its effect, too, for there was much condemnation of the "geographical discrimination" which has prevailed under the Wilson administration.

In an effort to induce every Republican of the District possessed of the right of franchise in any of the several states to return in November and cast a ballot for the party ticket, the League of Republican State Clubs this week applied to the railroads to grant a reduced rate to residents of the District desiring to go home for the election. The president of the state clubs, T. Lincoln Townsend, left today for New York to urge the movement upon traffic managers. Col. Charles W. Shinn, of West Virginia, is vice-president of the organization.

It was stated here today that the visit of Earl Dudding, of Huntington, organizer and president of the prisoners' relief society had been in a measure successful and that the government had agreed to give to the former postoffice employee in question a position in the department if he will pass the civil service examination. Mr. Dudding has been here this week in conference with Postmaster General Burleson to have a veteran postoffice employee, but recently released after serving a term for opening letters, given some position in the department. If this is done, which at present seems probable, it represents the upsetting of a tradition in this department as old probably as the postal service itself. No employee having once been convicted of crime against it has been restored. Friends of the prisoners' relief organization are rejoicing in what they consider a great achievement. For many years effort has been made to appeal to corporations, firms and business houses to take down the bars against a man who has done wrong and expiated his offense. The determination of the postoffice officials in this case will undoubtedly be hailed as an evidence of better things and will give the national government the lead in an effort to do something for the man who has been unfortunate.

In a stirring address last night before the Woman's National Republican Club, at the Willard, Chief Justice Stanton J. Peelle, of the court of claims, retired, declared that in June, 1914, two months prior to the present European war, business of the United States had decreased \$1,000,000 an hour since the time of the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as president. Justice Peelle made a fiery attack on the economic principles of the present administration. He said the present prosperity was not a fair sample of the work done under the Democratic administration and that the shadowy gains in business are founded upon the misfortunes of war.

"At the close of the war," said Justice Peelle, we shall see that the kind of a man needed by the American people in the White House is one like Charles Evans Hughes, whose abilities combine the conservatism of a jurist together with an executive faculty that was proven while he was governor of the Empire state."

One of the guests at the national headquarters this week was Hon. W. P. Hawley, state senator from Bluefield, and one of the managers of the Lilly primary campaign, chairman of the Republican congressional committee of the Fifth District. Mr. Hawley had a conference with Frank P. Wood, of the national Republican congressional committee and afterwards spent some time visiting with Washington friends.

Senator Hawley wanted it particularly made known that he was in the class of "once a regular, always a regular." That not only did he intend to vote the straight Republican ticket for former Justice Hughes down, but he intended to take an active part in the coming election and actively support Judge Robinson. The announced regularity of Senator Hawley's attitude dispels another Democratic dream in that section.

Mercer, Summers and Monroe counties in Senator Hawley's district were strong for the Lilly nomination, and the statement and influence of

Senator Hawley will be a powerful factor in the November election.

The last official act of General Mills, who was in charge of the militia affairs in the war department, related to the West Virginia national guard. As has before been stated General Mills was an active worker and supporter of the militia and believed in its ultimate destiny as a powerful factor in the preparedness system of the nation. His interest in all that had to do with the national guard problems and management was deeply appreciated by every member of the West Virginia delegation, not a one of whom, even went to him with a request, that was not granted if possible. Or if circumstances were such that he could not acquiesce in what the West Virginians wanted, courteous and kindly explanation of the difficulty was volunteered. General Mills' last call on his last day in the office was the secretary from the office of Congressman Neely, who had been instructed to call at the department for the purpose of discussing with the general a matter pertaining to the First West Virginia regiment. Immediately after this interview, General Mills left the department with Major Neely's secretary and went immediately to his home. In fourteen hours from that time General Mills had succumbed to an acute attack of pneumonia, brought on, it is said, by his close attendance to duty.

Chester is the first city in West Virginia whose postoffice is below the \$10,000 class that has ever received the city delivery service that is promised it by the postoffice department and which will go into effect Thursday, September 28. Congressman Neely, who has had the matter in charge, and has urged constantly the merits of the case, is justly proud of the fact that the achievement of such service is assured. Chester will have one delivery each day to the residence section of the town, and two deliveries to the business section. It is hoped that at the December session favorable action will be taken on the bill authorizing the construction of a suitable building for the federal offices at Chester.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Lee Phillips and little daughter, Mary Lee Phillips, who have been the guests of Mrs. Stephen B. Elkins and Mrs. Arthur Lee, at Elkins, have returned to Washington.

Congressman George Bowers spent yesterday in the city, occupied with affairs connected with his office, and waded through a stack of work and correspondence which was enough to terrify the ordinary individual. Mr. Bowers is making weekly visits to look after the interest of his constituents and, it is safe to say, that he will spend more time in Washington this summer, in all probability, than any other occupant of the House building. Congressmen in Washington these days are as scarce as the proverbial "hen's teeth."

"The West Virginia campaign," said Mr. Bowers, "is just like all the rest of them. All political horses will be spurred all the way down the campaign stretch. Everything is in fine shape in my section of the state, and we are more than pleased with the enthusiastic reports that are coming in from all over the state. Of course our opponents are bringing out their usual 'bogey-men' to scare and premature announcement of a November victory but it isn't a matter that is distressing us in the least."

BURGLAR BAND IS BROKEN UP IN MEXICO CITY

With the Recent Capture of Roman Canteli the Police Now Believe.

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 23.—The police of Mexico City believe that with the capture recently of Roman Canteli, they have broken up a band of burglars and robbers which has terrorized the more prosperous residence districts of the city and which has taken loot said to amount to more than \$100,000. The band was known as "La Mano que Aprieta" or "The Grasping Hand" from the black imprint of a hand which always was left somewhere about the premises where the robbers operated.

It is believed many persons robbed feared to report their losses for fear of the vengeance of "The Grasping Hand."

Canteli, it is said, was captured in a subterranean chamber opening from the wall of a deep well. He was traced through his wife who brought him food and it is alleged that several of the victims of the robberies have identified him as one of the band.

The 5,000 policemen of Mexico City have received an increase in pay of from three and one-half pesos to five pesos a day. They also will be furnished their uniforms in future. Heretofore they have had to purchase their own uniforms.

ENGINEER STOPS TRAIN TO DO SOME FISHING

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 23.—Admitting that fishing is alluring, but contending that business is business, Edgar Wright, lumber dealer, has filed suit for \$2,000 against an engineer on the Louisiana, Hammond and Eastern railroad.

In his petition Wright alleges he lost a lumber contract worth \$2,000 because the engineer halted his train two hours to try his luck at fishing in a pond along the line.

FASTS SEVENTY DAYS AND DIES

Weapon with Which Doctor Fought Death Finally Turns against Him.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Sept. 23.—Dr. H. G. Huffman, faster, died at the city hospital on the seventieth day of his fast. He was unconscious before he died. His wife was at his bedside.

Dr. Huffman began his fast June 30. He tried to eat on August 9, but found food would not agree with him. "Nature has not yet eliminated the poisons from my system," said Huffman. "When that is done, I will be able to eat."

Again on August 20 Huffman tried to break his fast with the same result. But Huffman was no worried. Then on August 22, September 1 and September 2 he tried to eat. Each time he found his stomach refused to take food.

Wife Shares His Confidence.
Dr. Huffman's wife, who was with him throughout his fast, shared her husband's confidence that he would recover. She respected his wishes that no doctor be called to treat him.

When Huffman lapsed into unconsciousness Mr. Huffman began to fear for his life. She called his brother and they had the doctor removed to Dr. C. A. Davey's nature sanitarium at Youngstown. Davey was the only man Huffman would allow to treat him.

Later Huffman's brother had him removed to the city hospital. Doctors there tried to give him nourishment, but failed.

Fasting, which killed Huffman, was the weapon with which he believed he was fighting death. Two years ago doctors told him he had not long to live. He went to a lonely spot on the Grand river, near Geneva, and set up his camp, which he named Camp Phoenix. There for forty-seven days he went without food.

When Dr. Huffman returned to his practice as an oculist in Youngstown he became apparently strong and well in a few months.

Doctor's Bride Fasts, Too.
The next year Huffman returned to Camp Phoenix and fasted thirty days. Again he came through feeling "like a new man."

Then a few days after his fast Huffman was married under the spread-

ing trees of Camp Phoenix, where he had won back health.

"I shall fast with my husband next year," the bride said after the wedding. "It has helped my husband and it will help me."

True to her promise, Mrs. Huffman joined her husband on his third fast. She went sixteen days without food. She broke her fast August 9, the day of her husband's first unsuccessful attempt to take food.

Mere Skeleton When He Dies.
Then while Dr. Huffman lay on a cot of pine boughs Mrs. Huffman busied herself about Camp Phoenix canning wild berries.

"My husband is not eating now, but he does in the winter," she merrily told visitors.

The Huffmans left Camp Phoenix as they had lived in it, with the rows of fruit jars arranged on shelves.

Huffman was a mere skeleton when he died. Doctors said that only remarkable strength and faith in his final recovery kept him alive for nearly seventy days.

WOMAN NOT AFRAID OF BEARS; KILLS A BIG ONE

BOISE, Idaho, Sept. 23.—What would you do, Miss or Mrs. Clarkburg if you were suddenly confronted alone in the wilds and removed from call of help, by a huge bear?

Paint? Run? Scream?
Mrs. L. H. Walter, of Boise, supervisor of the kindergarten at St. Margaret's hall and wife of Professor Walter of the high school, was placed in just such a position recently at the Walter camp on Lambin Creek. She was placidly fishing in the creek. Glancing up she saw a bear headed her way under full steam.

She picked up her trusty rifle and proceeded to shoot Mr. Bruin until he was thoroughly dead. Her steady aim proved she was not in the least frightened.

A. B. Zu Tavern, of the high school faculty, who tells the story, says he saw a handsome skin hung on the cabin to dry. Its size, he says, tells the story of what might have happened had Mrs. Walter not been a good shot.

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